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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Koji YANAI et al.

Serial No. 10/089,514

Filed March 29, 2002

MAY 3 1 2006

Confirmation No. 7814

Attorney Docket No. 2002_0451A

Group Art Unit 1656

Examiner Chih Min Kam

TRANSFORMANTS PRODUCING SECONDARY METABOLITES MODIFIED WITH FUNCTIONAL GROUPS, AND NOVEL BIOSYNTHESIS GENES Mail Stop: Amendment

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action dated March 1, 2006 and further to the after-final response filed February 7, 2006, Applicants herein provide the following amendments and remarks.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE), requesting entry of the amendments in the after-final response, was filed on April 18, 2006.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES
FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 23-0975